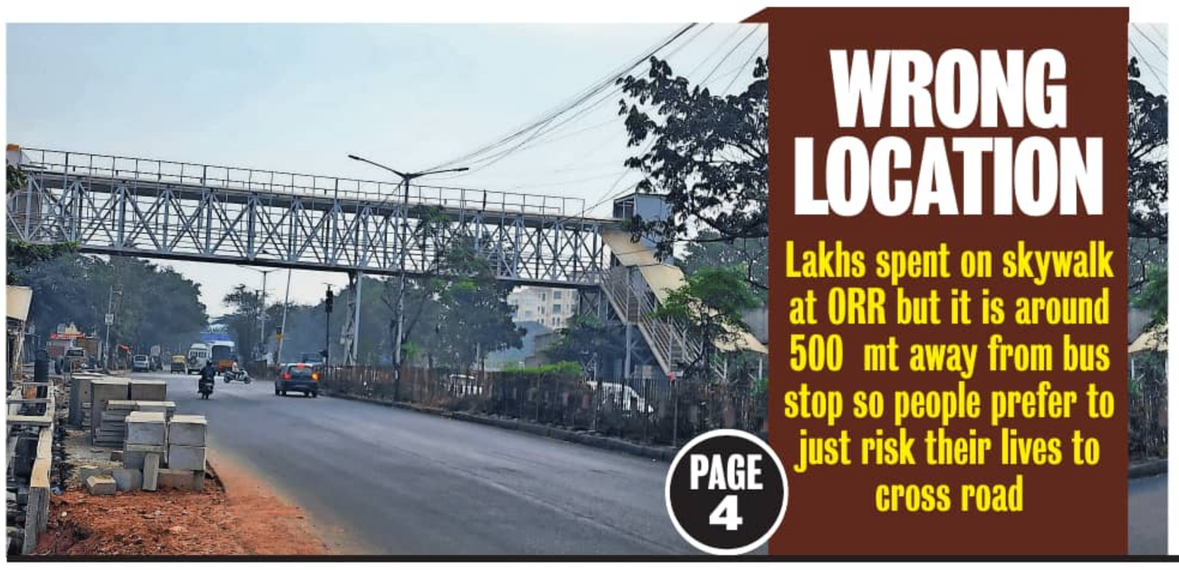
BENGALURU, MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2025 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

# Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 22 | Min 18 | Humidity 95% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 85,706 | Nifty 26,202 | Gold 1,29,820 | Silver 1,85,000 | Dollar 89.46 | Euro 104.02 | GBP 118.26



## WRONG LOCATION

Lakhs spent on skywalk at ORR but it is around 500 mt away from bus stop so people prefer to just risk their lives to cross road

PAGE 4

## FENCE EATS CROP

State Human Rights Commission flags serious misconduct by police inspector, recommends disciplinary action and compensation

PAGE 5

# Traffic violations by food-delivery agents has spiked by 106% over three years; no-parking stops, riding against one-way, obstructing pedestrians and speeding are biggest offences

# FEEDING FRENZY

### Talks with aggregators not effective as pressure-based incentive system remains unchanged

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Traffic violations by food-delivery riders in Bengaluru have shot up by 106% over three years, rising from 30,968 cases in 2023 to 63,718 in 2025. In absolute terms, officers have booked 1,46,839 violations since 2023, making delivery riders the largest single group of rule-breakers on the city's roads. The spike mirrors the rapid expansion of IT corridors, high-density commercial zones, and apartment clusters where food-delivery movement is most intense.

The East Division covering Whitefield, KR Puram, Indiranagar, and Halasuru accounts for 73,971 cases, or about 50% of all violations recorded against delivery riders. Whitefield alone contributes over 25,000 cases, reflecting the volume of IT parks and residential towers that drive high delivery traffic. In the South Division, police have registered 44,313 violations, nearly 30% of the citywide total. Areas such as

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

**"With multiple quick-service apps now promising deliveries in under 10 minutes, riders feel compelled to cut corners—riding against traffic, skipping signals, or stopping in no-parking zones simply to avoid penalties from their companies**

—Police official

# HANGING FLYOVER OF EJIPURA

### As authorities drag their feet over land acquisition, it looks more unlikely project will be able to meet its latest deadline

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With no progress in acquiring the required land for ramp construction, residents and social activists are skeptical about the completion of the much-delayed Ejipura Flyover. Around 6,000 square metre of land is required for ramp construction at St. John's Medical College and Hostel. The Karnataka High Court, while disposing of a writ petition, issued an oral order on September 26, directing the Department of Urban Development, the BBMP, and the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) to utilise the property, which is the subject matter of the writ petition, only after following the due process of law and not otherwise.

The writ petition was filed by

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

## THINGS TO DO

### 01 Stage saga

As part of the Bengaluru Theatre Festival Season 2, Lillete Dubey, Ira Dubey and Joy Sengupta will be starring in 'Vodka & No Tonic', a witty, layered exploration of love, ageing, and modern relationships. **Where: Good Shepherd Auditorium, Shanthala Nagar; When: December 5, 8 pm**

### 02 Classical celebration

The Nadathur Foundation is organising the 4th edition of 'Nada Sambhrama', a concert series dedicated to promoting and celebrating the rich tradition of Indian classical music. **Where: Mangala Mandapa Auditorium, Jayanagar; When: Dec 6, 6.30 pm**

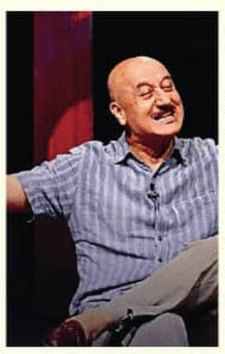
### 03 Turn up the tunes

Re: Sound by Jet ALive featuring Lucky Ali will be taking the audience on a soulful journey, celebrating music that has defined generations. From nostalgic classics to new age soundscape, experience the timeless charm of a musical icon, live on stage. **Where: Phoenix Marketcity, Whitefield; When: December 6, 7 pm**

### 04 Lit up

Bangalore Literature Festival, the city's flagship literary event, is all set for a spectacular fourteenth edition. The two-day event will feature a host of authors and speakers, including renowned novelists and fiction writers. **Where: Freedom Park; When: December 6 and 7, 9 am onwards**

### 05 Play time



As part of the Bengaluru Theatre Festival Season 2, Anupam Kher will be narrating and dramatising the important events of his life in a play titled 'Kucch bhi ho sakta hai'. **Where: Prestige Centre for Performing Arts, Konanakunte; When: December 5, 8 pm**

# Scaling new heights

## Man from Bengaluru conquers rare Himalayan summit in Nepal, says steep terrain, unpredictable conditions and lack of clear trail made climb extremely challenging

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Bengaluru-based mountaineer Sandeep Vijay Kumar Shah has achieved a rare Himalayan feat by successfully summiting Lobuche West (6,135 m) in Nepal on November 12 at 9 am. Shah reached the summit and safely descended to Kathmandu soon after.

The climb on Lobuche West was filled with technical and mental challenges from the very start, Shah said. He explained that the steep snow and ice slopes, some rising to nearly 50 degrees, demanded precise footwork, careful rope fixing, and unwavering concentration. He further noted that the route consisted of a mixed terrain — snow, rock, ice, and narrow ridgelines — making it far more challenging than the trekking peaks commonly attempted. "High altitude added to the strain, with thin air turning every movement into a struggle, especially during the long summit push that can take up to 12 hours. Mentally, the lack of recent ascents meant there was no clear trail to follow, forcing constant judgement calls on safety, conditions and terrain," he said.

The expedition began on November 1, 2025, with his arrival in Lukla, and the entire journey lasted 18 days. "After acclimatising in Namche Bazaar, I took a tougher, non-traditional route across Renjo La and Cho La passes, both above 5,300 m," he said. He remarked that hauling full technical gear across steep, glaciated terrain pushed his endurance to the limit long before he even reached the mountain. "After descending into the Lobuche valley, I moved to Base Camp and then High Camp at 5,200 m, reaching the summit fully conditioned for the high-altitude challenge ahead," said Shah.

### Challenging expedition

From choosing the right weather window to navigating crevasses on the glacier, Shah had to make important decisions along the way. "Sudden Himalayan weather changes meant I had to constantly evaluate the wind, snow and visibility before moving ahead. Managing rope teams, choosing the safest line on exposed ridges and deciding when to fix protection were all crucial," he said. He said these factors together made Lobuche West far tougher than any peak he had climbed before. Unlike more popular mountains, particularly its easier twin, Lobuche East, the West summit offers no straightforward sections, said Shah. He noted that it behaves more like a full expedition peak, demanding advanced mountaineering skills, robust logistics, and complete self reliance. "Its steep terrain, unpredictable conditions, technical requirements and the lack of recent documented climbs make it a rare and demanding Himalayan objective, one that truly tests a climber's abilities, judgement and mental resilience," he added.

**Lack of recent ascents meant there was no clear trail to follow, forcing constant judgement calls on safety, conditions and terrain, says Bengaluru mountaineer**

For him, the most demanding sections were the steep upper slopes, rising to gradients of 45–50 degrees and requiring meticulous rope work and precise footwork. Yet he admitted that, mentally, the isolation and uncertainty proved even tougher than the physical strain. "Every step forces you to stay alert. You cannot afford mistakes. There is no recent trail to follow, so the climb tests your focus, patience and judgement," he said.

**Sandeep Vijay Kumar Shah, Bengaluru-based mountaineer who successfully summitted Lobuche West in Nepal on November 12**

### Climbing with a cause

Shah views mountaineering as more than personal achievement, dedicating his climbs to 'Project Reroute: Wilderness on Foot', a conservation initiative he leads across five countries. "Through this project, we work with forest departments and national parks to support forest watchers and guards. We climb with a cause. Through our events and outreach, we are trying to educate younger generations about wildlife conservation, climate change and the urgent need to protect our ecosystems," he said.

### Environmental concerns

Lastly, he expressed concern about environmental changes he witnessed in the Everest region. Having first visited in 2007, he says the retreat of glaciers is now devastatingly obvious. "The rapid melting is part of a global problem that crosses borders. Global warming does not see borders. What happens in one country affects the rest," he said.

## K-RIDE finally gets full-time MD

K-RIDE, the agency tasked with executing Bengaluru's long-delayed suburban rail network, has finally been freed from makeshift leadership with the Union government appointing Indian Railway Service officer Lakshman Singh as its full-time Managing Director. Officials say he will assume charge shortly, ending years of administrative gaps that slowed the project. Though K-RIDE initially had a full-time MD when the joint venture between the Centre and Karnataka was launched, coordination issues and the pandemic left the post vacant or handled as an additional charge for nearly two years, stalling progress.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone in June 2022 and announced a 40-month deadline, but work dragged on as successive IAS officers—first Gaurav Gupta, then Mekala N—handled K-RIDE only as an added responsibility. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and MP Tejasvi Surya repeatedly flagged the lack of a dedicated MD as a key reason for delays, especially after the contracted company pulled out. Even routine approvals required visits to Vidhana Soudha, causing further bottlenecks. With a full-time MD now in place, officials expect quicker decisions, faster coordination with Delhi and Bengaluru, and renewed momentum across all four BSRP corridors, including Chikkabanavara–Benniganahalli and Heelalige–Rajanukunte. **— BMB**

**In full bloom** Enthusiastic visitors throng Cubbon Park flower show, admiring creative displays, vibrant blossoms, and enjoying the lively celebration of nature PIC: KAUSHIK JN

# B'lureans left shivering as temperature drops by 5.5°C

## Cold snap has triggered health issues among children and elderly

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Bengaluru is experiencing a marked chill as cold winds sweep across the city, causing temperatures to drop sharply. During the weekend, the maximum temperature fell by 5.5°C, creating a noticeably cold atmosphere. Over the past 15 days, the city has seen progressively colder conditions, intensified by gusty winds, making it difficult for residents to step out. On Saturday, people of all age groups were spotted wearing sweaters, mufflers, and jackets, while morning fog reduced visibility to just 100–150 metres, forcing vehicles to rely on fog lights on major roads.

Typically, Bengaluru's maximum temperature in November hovers around 27.4°C, but last Thursday and Friday, it recorded 26.6°C and 25.2°C respectively. On Saturday, the maximum plunged to 21.6°C, while the minimum settled at 16.6°C, slightly below the normal 17.2°C. This combination of lower day and night temperatures has created an unusually cold spell in the city.

Over the last three days, minimum temperatures have hovered around 16°C. On November 27, the city recorded 16.7°C, on November 28 16.1°C, and 16.6°C on November 29. For comparison, in November 2022, the minimum was 15.4°C, the lowest recorded for that month, while historical lows include 17.1°C in 2013, 19.4°C in 2024, and the all-time November low of 9.6°C in 1967, according to the Meteorological Department.

### Health concerns rise

The cold snap has triggered health issues among children and the elderly. Doctors report an increase in cold, fever, cough, and headaches, with children under four being particularly vulnerable. Afternoon cloud cover intensifies the chill, prompting residents to wear warm clothing such as sweaters and caps. Evening strolls see people taking extra precautions against the cold.

### Medical advice and precautions

Doctors advise maintaining warmth through layered clothing, consuming warm and nutritious food, and avoiding unnecessary outdoor exposure. Parents are urged to monitor children's health closely, while the elderly and pregnant women should take extra care. Medical professionals warn that untreated minor cold symptoms could escalate to other infections, especially during the December–January cold wave. Mosquito-borne diseases may also rise, making preventive measures essential.

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PAGE 12 NEW CHAPTER: Sidharth calls his wife a superhero after witnessing the pregnancy journey

# Woman killed by sister's jilted lover; suspect arrested

The Seshadripuram police on Sunday arrested a 28-year-old man for the murder of a 23-year-old construction worker, who was stabbed to death at an under-construction building on Saturday.

The accused, identified as Nagappa from Vijayapura district, allegedly killed her after she refused to share the address of her sister.

According to the police, Nagappa had been pursuing a relationship with the victim's sister and had expressed his desire to marry her. The woman had reportedly been avoiding him due to persistent harassment and had recently shifted residence to escape his pressure. Unable to trace her, Nagappa approached Sharanamma at her workplace on Saturday and demanded her sister's address. When she told him she did not know, he allegedly pulled out a knife he had carried with him and stabbed her multiple times.

The Seshadripuram police tracked the accused down within hours. A murder case has been registered at Seshadripuram Police Station, and further investigation is underway. **–BMB**

# Duo loses life in two-wheeler accident

Another and son from Kengeri died on Saturday morning after their scooter was rear-ended by a speeding goods tanker on Mysuru Road.

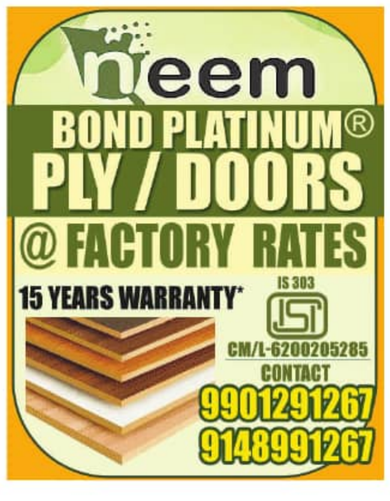
The victims were identified as Ashwini (41) and her son Abhilash (20), originally from Kolar district. Police said the two were on their way to City Market, where Ashwini worked as a security guard.

According to the police, the incident occurred around 7.45 am near the Zudio showroom in Guddadahalli, when the tanker hit the scooter from behind, causing both riders to fall onto the road and sustain severe injuries. They were pronounced dead while being shifted to the hospital.

The Byatarayanapura Traffic Police visited the spot, conducted an inspection, and registered a case. The bodies have been sent to Victoria Hospital mortuary for postmortem. An investigation into the tanker driver's negligence is underway. **–BMB**

# RTOs get help desks to tackle agent mafia

In a bid to crack down on the rampant agent menace plaguing Regional Transport Offices, the Transport Department has launched a decisive clean-up drive: every RTO will soon get a dedicated Help Desk tasked with educating citizens about all 31 online services. Triggered by the Transport Minister's directive, the new system will deploy exclusive staff to guide people through licence renewals, address changes, tax payments, permit updates and more—services that no longer require citizens to set foot inside an RTO. Yet, due to poor awareness, people continue to visit offices only to fall prey to middlemen, losing both time and money. Officers believe shutting down cash counters—still operating despite online systems—will choke off corruption and finally restore order in offices where agents have long run the show. **–BMB**

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| 3 | 236 | Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IIT-KGP) | 81.3 |
| 4 | 241 | University of Delhi | 80.9 |
| 5 | 305 | Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM) | 77.3 |
| 6 | 310 | Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK) | 77 |
| **7** | **352** | **Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT)** | **74.9** |
| 7 | 352 | Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (IITR) | 74.9 |
| 9 | 462 | Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore | 70.5 |
| 10 | 467 | Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal | 70.3 |

Source : https://www.topuniversities.com/sustainability-rankings

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# Pedestrians choose risky road crossing over 'misplaced' skywalk

## BBMP skywalk underused as bus shelter remains inconveniently distant

Underused skywalk at Outer Ring Road: Commuters prefer risking the busy road rather than walking 500 metres

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Going by what BMTC commuters and pedestrians say, the authorities appear to have overlooked basic planning while taking up developmental works. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) spent lakhs of rupees on a skywalk on the Outer Ring Road, yet it remains underused, with most commuters still preferring to cross the busy stretch.

Commuters who alight from or board BMTC buses at the bus shelter constructed at Devi Nagar cannot use the skywalk to reach the other side of the road, as it is situated around 500 metres away.

BMTC commuters and pedestrians complain that the authorities have failed to relocate the bus shelter from its existing location to ensure access to the skywalk. "The bus shelter was constructed at Devi Nagar between BEL Circle and Bhadrappa Layout. The skywalk is 500 metres away from the bus shelter. Many BMTC commuters prefer crossing the road rather than using the skywalk to reach the other side, thus risking road accidents," said Manjunath Naik, a resident.

Naik said the authorities need to visit the spot and make a decision to relocate the bus shelter for the benefit of hundreds of commuters and pedestrians. "The purpose of constructing the skywalk is not served if the authorities fail to shift the existing bus shelter adjacent to the skywalk," he said.

Expressing a similar opinion, Mohan Kumar G, a resident, said that many schoolchildren and parents have been facing a lot of problems due to the lack of much-needed skywalks near St Claret College, Mother Teresa College and Royal Orchid School. "The existing skywalk near Bhadrappa Layout is underutilised by pedestrians. Senior citizens cannot use this skywalk as it has neither an escalator nor a lift. I want the authorities concerned not only to shift the bus shelter adjacent to the skywalk but also to provide either an escalator or a lift for the benefit of senior citizens," Mohan Kumar said.

**BMTC commuters largely ignore the newly built Outer Ring Road skywalk, preferring to cross the busy road, risking accidents. Residents urge authorities to relocate bus shelters closer and provide escalators or lifts for senior citizens**

However, the executive engineer (Traffic Engineering Cell) was not available for comment.

## Lakes ravaged for express corridor

The Bengaluru–Chennai Express Corridor may be racing ahead, but in its wake it has left the lakes of Kolar and Bengaluru Rural battered, gouged and gasping. When contractors needed massive quantities of quality soil for the corridor, they turned to the region's tanks—over 80 of them—digging deep after securing permission from the Mines and Geology Department. Villagers protested, prompting the Zilla Panchayat to intervene, and contractors promised a win-win: they would take only the required silt, reshape the tanks' basins, build stable bunds and plant saplings all around before leaving. Once the protests subsided, the promises evaporated.

Instead of removing silt in a gentle, bowl-shaped gradient that improves water storage, contractors dug recklessly, carving 20-foot craters in tanks like the one in Vokkaleri, uprooting trees and leaving behind death traps for both people and cattle. Experts warn that removing more than 6–7 feet of soil damages the topsoil layer and destroys the lake's ability to hold water. With the State having waived royalty payments—since the corridor was a prestigious national project—contractors took advantage, walked away after mining, and left lakes scarred and dysfunctional. Officials now say all lakes where soil was taken with permission will be ordered to be restored as promised, while Gram Panchayat–controlled tanks will be revived under MGNREGA. — BMB

## Police take safety lessons straight to schools

In a renewed citywide outreach effort, Bengaluru City Police today will deploy around 750 officers of PSI rank and above to nearly 1,250 schools and colleges, where they are expected to address close to 2.5 lakh students on issues ranging from women's safety to cybercrime prevention. The initiative is part of the department's continued engagement with young citizens and follows several tech-driven safety programmes rolled out over the past year.

A key component of the programme will be awareness of women's safety mechanisms, including the 1090 helpline, Hoysala patrols, Safety Islands, and the Safe Connect feature on the KSP App. According to the police, the Safe Connect feature, launched on December 31, 2024, has been used by more than 150 people in distress situations and now forms a core part of the app's services, which currently has over 2.3 million active users in the city.

Officers will also brief students on reporting narcotics-related information anonymously through the Drug-Free Karnataka App and Helpline 1933, along with the role of Anti-Narcotics Committees functioning in educational institutions. Police said the focus is to help students identify early signs of drug abuse and understand the channels available to report such activities safely.

Traffic safety will be another major theme, with teams explaining accident-prevention practices, Golden Hour protocols, and the process of reporting violations using the Astram App. The police said strengthening road discipline remains a top priority given the city's rising vehicle density.

With cybercrime cases continuing to increase, visiting officers will guide students on digital safety, reporting financial fraud through the 1930 helpline, using online portals to flag cyber offences, and recognising risks such as identity theft, cyberstalking, and online sexual abuse.

Officials noted that the December 1, drive is part of a broader shift towards citizen-centric policing. Initiatives such as 'Mane Manege Police', where officers visit households to interact with residents, and the 'Open-Door' programme, which brings schoolchildren into police stations to familiarise them with policing systems, continue to run alongside the campaign. Police said these efforts are aimed at improving transparency, strengthening community trust, and ensuring that citizens, especially young people, do not feel unsafe or hesitant to approach a police station or file a complaint, including against police personnel if required. — BMB

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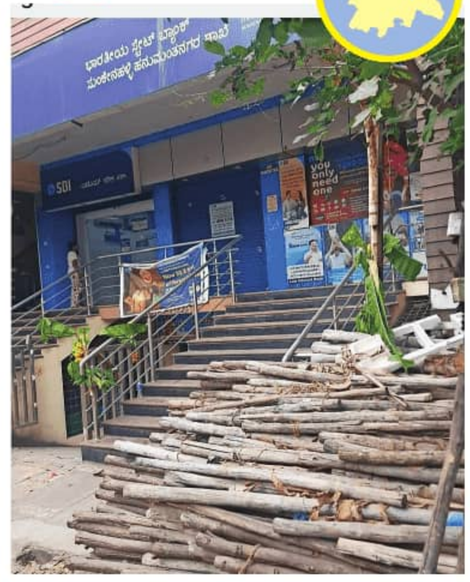
### Stretch unfixed

**JP Nagar**

Despite grand promises, this stretch of road has not been repaired at First Cross, Dollars Layout, JP Nagar Phase 4.

### Path blocked

**Vidyapeeta Ward**



Pedestrians are finding it difficult to walk due to footpath encroachment. Despite complaints, no action has been taken so far in Vidyapeeta Ward.

### Repairs pending

**Brunton Road**

BWSSB personnel have excavated the road, and it has not been repaired since.

# Adoption meet highlights importance of family care

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

As part of National Adoption Awareness Month, the Directorate of Child Protection organised a state-level meet for adoptive families and prospective adoptive parents at Jawahar Bal Bhavan. Themed 'Every child matters – adoption of children having special needs', the event brought together adoptive families, prospective adoptive parents, child protection officials, institutions, and key dignitaries.

Speaking on the significance of Adoption Awareness Month and the need for stronger family-based care systems, Haleema, Project Director, Directorate of Child Protection, Bengaluru, said that it serves as a reminder that every child, especially those with special needs, deserve the security of a family and the dignity of belonging. "Family-based care is not just an option; it is a fundamental right. Our collective effort across SARA, DCPUs, SAAs and partner institutions is strengthening legal, ethical and transparent adoption pathways so that no child has to grow up without love, care and opportunity," said Haleema.

In her address, Bhavana Saxena, Member Secretary & CEO, Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), opined that adoption is a moral and national responsibility. She noted that across India, thousands of children remain orphaned, abandoned or surrendered, yet only a small number enter the legal adoption system. "We must identify every eligible child, register them promptly, and ensure they are declared legally free for adoption within the mandated timelines," said Saxena. She emphasised that children with special needs and older children deserve the opportunity to grow within loving families rather than spend their lives confined to institutions. "With stronger coordination, vigilant child protection systems, and widespread awareness of legal adoption pathways, we can ensure that every child finds the safety, affection and dignity of a permanent home," added Saxena.

Many orphans across country are yet to enter legal adoption system

**Adoptive parents share heartfelt stories at state-level meet, serving as inspiration for prospective adoptive parents**

As part of the programme, adoptive parents shared heartfelt personal stories of welcoming children, especially those with special needs, into their families. Their narratives of resilience, acceptance, and unconditional love served as a powerful inspiration for prospective adoptive parents in attendance.

Helpline Information: If you find or are aware of any abandoned child, contact Child Helpline 1098 or Emergency Helpline 112 – available 24/7.

# Police official pulled up for abuse of authority

## Human rights body urges departmental action against errant police inspector who allegedly illegally detained man's vehicle, while also resorting to extortion and coercion

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The Karnataka State Human Rights Commission (KSHRC), in a suo motu order dated November 25, has recommended departmental action and compensation after finding that Police Inspector Praveen Kumar, formerly posted at Cottonpet Police Station, illegally detained a citizen's car, misused his official position, and repeatedly obstructed the Commission's inquiry. The case originated from a complaint filed by Mujaid Pasha, a resident of HMT Layout in RT Nagar, who approached the Commission alleging prolonged harassment and abuse of authority by the officer.

**Human Rights Commission recommends Rs 2 lakh compensation for complainant, with full-fledged departmental inquiry against police official**

### Allegations of extortion, misuse of seized vehicles

According to Pasha's complaint, his car was unlawfully kept at the police station, and when he sought clarification from the officer, he was allegedly abused verbally and threatened with a fabricated criminal case. The KSHRC assigned its DySP, KE Keshava, to conduct an independent inquiry. During the investigation, several allegations emerged that pointed not only to illegal detention of the vehicle but also to extortion, coercion, and personal misuse of the seized car.

The inquiry found that Inspector Praveen Kumar had allegedly pressured the complainant to sell his car for Rs 4 lakh in exchange for the release of Pasha's friend, Munawar Pasha, who had been detained at Sampangi Nagar Police Station. Although the officer took possession of the vehicle and its original documents, the car was never transferred to his name, and only Rs 30,000 was ever paid to the complainant, despite the purported agreement. Witness statements recorded by the Commission further indicate that the officer continued to use the vehicle for his personal benefit during this period.

Significantly, the inquiry report notes that the car was involved in an accident on Brigade Road while under the officer's control, following which it was returned to the complainant in a damaged condition. Pasha later had to bear the repair costs himself, a detail that the Commission considered a clear instance of financial loss caused by the officer's misuse of authority. Investigators also found that a second vehicle belonging to the complainant had been taken by the officer and kept parked outside his residence for years, with its return allegedly made conditional upon payment of Rs 3 lakh.

In support of his allegations, the complainant submitted audio recordings that reportedly corroborated the threats, coercion, and negotiations over the vehicles. The officer's conduct during the inquiry was another key concern for the Commission. Repeated summons issued between July 2024 and June 2025 went unanswered. Notices served at the officer's residence were refused, forcing investigators to paste the summons at the door. Even then, Praveen Kumar did not file objections, replies, or clarifications despite being granted multiple opportunities.

"Despite being given multiple opportunities, the inspector never responded to the Commission's notices, effectively reiterating the allegations against him. Hence, compensation has been imposed and departmental inquiry initiated," a source told BM.

### 'A clear human rights violation'

Based on the findings, the KSHRC concluded that Kumar's actions amounted to misuse of authority, harassment, and violation of the complainant's human rights under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

In its order, the Commission recommended payment of Rs 2 lakh in compensation to Pasha within one month, directing the Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department, to ensure disbursal. The order further states that after the conclusion of a departmental inquiry, the government may recover the compensation amount from the officer's salary, based on the final findings. Parallelly, the Director General and Inspector General of Police (DG & IGP) has been instructed to prepare articles of charge and initiate a full-fledged departmental inquiry against Praveen Kumar in light of the inquiry report and documentary evidence.

Under Section 18(e) of the Human Rights Act, both the Home Department and the DG & IGP have been asked to submit compliance and action-taken reports to the Commission by December 26, 2025.

# Revenue officers to get laptops for online work

The Revenue Department will provide laptops to all Village Revenue Officers and Revenue Inspectors within three months to ensure every task is processed through e-Office, Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda said after a review with district officials. He noted that 5,000 VROs have already received laptops and that the government has delivered key land services—podi corrections, pauthi accounts, and Bhoosuraksha digitisation—directly to citizens' doorsteps. The Nanna Bhoomi campaign alone enabled 1.49 lakh podi corrections in a year, compared to just 8,500 between 2018 and 2023, while a pauthi drive covering 40 lakh holdings has completed 3.2 lakh accounts.

Sources said that under Bhoosuraksha, 53 crore pages have been scanned with 40 crore still pending, and the daily scan rate is 17,500 pages to meet the February deadline. Land surveys have increased from 90,000 to 1.34 lakh a month, supported by 600 new rovers and 1,000 more on the way. Backlogs have also plummeted: Tehsildar court pending cases dropped from 10,774 to 526, and AC court cases from 59,339 to 9,954 after appointing special officers. **–BMB**

# Solar power lights up govt health centres

Under the Solar Health Initiative, the State Health Department has installed solar units across 3,600 government health centres to cut electricity costs, with a year-end target of 3,659 centres including primary, community, and taluk hospitals. Each battery-backed unit provides 24-hour solar electricity, monitored through mobile apps, ensuring timely maintenance and remote troubleshooting. Supported with Rs 120 crore funding under CSR by the Su Foundation, over 2,000 staff have been trained to manage the systems, and 626 complaints have already been logged via the Solar e-Mitra app, with 314 resolved.

Sources said that the project not only reduces operational costs for hospitals but also promotes renewable energy use and environmental conservation, with solar capacities ranging from 4–5 kW for primary centres to 10 kW for taluk hospitals. Over the next decade, the programme is expected to save significant electricity expenses for the government and cut carbon emissions by around 2 lakh tonnes, strengthening public health services while advancing sustainability. **–BMB**

# New data shows concentrated HIV spike in key populations

## Fresh monitoring reveals escalating infections concentrated within high-risk groups, signalling urgent gaps in targeted prevention efforts

Sridhar Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Monday marks World AIDS Day, newly compiled data from multiple HIV testing streams present a story of two contrasting trajectories: a sharp rise in HIV positives among key populations, and at the same time, a steady fall in positivity among the general public and pregnant women undergoing routine testing. Together, the numbers underline the shifting landscape of HIV risk in the state and the need to recalibrate intervention strategies accordingly.

### Key populations see steep rise in positives

Across six targeted intervention groups — FSW (Female Sex Workers), MSM (Men who have Sex with Men), TG/H (Transgender/Hijra), IDU (Injecting Drug Users), migrants and transport workers — Karnataka conducted 17,63,735 HIV tests over the last several years, detecting 2,631 positive cases. The upward climb is unmistakable: positives rose from 182 cases in 2020–21 to 828 in 2024–25, marking year-on-year increases of 33%, 38%, 55% and nearly 60%, respectively. The current year, 2025–26 (until October), has reported 525 positives, lower than last year's high; however, officials caution this cannot yet be read as a declining trend because the data represent only the first seven months of the financial year.

A breakdown of the yearly trends shows that MSM have consistently recorded the highest number of positives across most financial years. Their figures peaked at 243 positives in 2025–26 (until October), continuing their dominant share in the state's HIV burden. The exception came in 2024–25, when FSW registered 341 positives, overtaking MSM and raising concerns among programme managers about emerging transmission pockets.

In contrast, TG/H repeatedly record the highest positivity percentage despite having smaller testing volumes. This indicates a higher proportional risk in transgender and hijra communities and underscores the need for intensified, community-specific interventions. MSM, however, have recently overtaken them in positivity percentage as well — 0.432% in 2024–25 and 0.431% in 2025–26 (until October) — signalling deepening vulnerability. IDUs, migrant labourers and transport workers show comparatively lower positivity levels, though year-to-year fluctuations highlight the need for continued monitoring rather than complacency.

WORLD AIDS DAY

### More testing, less positivity

In sharp contrast to the rising trend among key populations, Karnataka's Integrated Counselling and Testing Centre (ICTC) data for the general population show a steadily improving picture. Testing volumes rose from 16.34 lakh in 2020–21 to a peak of 39.81 lakh in 2023–24, with achievement levels increasing from 62% to an impressive 162% in 2024–25. Even as testing expanded, positivity among general clients dropped from 0.58% to 0.31%, and annual positives declined from 9,520 to 6,751 during the same period. This suggests wider screening, improved awareness and possibly reduced transmission in the general population. Among pregnant women undergoing antenatal testing, positivity remained extremely low at 0.03% to 0.05%, with detections falling from 575 in 2020–21 to 269 in 2025–26, underscoring significant progress in preventing mother-to-child transmission.

Karnataka currently operates 442 stand-alone ICTCs and 2,930 Facility-Integrated ICTCs (FICTCs). These centres provide HIV counselling, testing and linkage to care alongside screening for tuberculosis, antenatal and postnatal needs. A senior official explained that stand-alone ICTCs have dedicated counsellors and lab personnel and usually operate in medical colleges or major hospitals, while Facility-Integrated ICTCs use existing staff — including nurses, lab technicians and ANMs — to provide HIV testing within routine services. This extensive network enables broad testing coverage across rural and semi-urban areas.

The contrasting trends — rising positives in key populations and declining positivity among the general public and ANC clients — suggest the HIV epidemic in Karnataka is becoming more concentrated within vulnerable communities. While strong testing coverage is a clear success, the steep rise in positives among MSM, TG/H and FSW indicates the need for sharper, targeted interventions, intensified prevention outreach and stronger community-led programmes. As an expert noted, the state has made significant progress, but the fight is far from over; sustained vigilance and tailored strategies will define the next phase of the response.

## Mother tigress, cubs secured safely

A tigress and her four cubs, spotted on the fringes of a forest, were captured by the forest department, officials said on Sunday. The tigress is believed to be the same one that allegedly mauled a two-year-old boy to death two years ago. She was first sighted outside the forest boundary and later captured from a maize field on November 28, after repeated sightings had alarmed residents. Two farmers had narrowly escaped an attack days earlier, prompting intensified operations. Her cubs, about six months old, were tranquillised, given primary care, and shifted to a safe location before being reunited with their mother, aided by a task force and four elephants.four elephants, a senior forest official said. The cubs were subsequently reunited with their mother, the department added. — PTI

## Registrar turns chauffeur to retiring driver

Rudrappa, who served as a car driver for Vice-Chancellors and Registrars of Karnataka University for nearly 23 years, received an emotional surprise on November 29 upon his retirement. In an unprecedented gesture, Registrar Nijalingappa Mattihal personally drove Rudrappa and his family home, marking a memorable occasion. Initially appointed temporarily under former Registrar Rajneesh Goel, Rudrappa went on to serve Vice-Chancellors AM Pathan, M Khajapeer, SK Saidapur, HB Walikar, and Acting VC A Murugappa. He also drove several Registrars, including Mattihal, who honoured his dedication. — PTI

## NOTES FROM THE FIELD

### Word war

Karnataka's political battleground heated up as CM Siddaramaiah and Deputy CM DK Shivakumar engaged in a high-stakes 'Word War' on social media. Shivakumar posted, "Word power is world power," signalling his intent to assert authority and stake a claim for the top job, as Siddaramaiah nears the halfway mark of his term. The CM fired back, stating that promises have no power unless they genuinely improve the world for the people, underlining his determination to retain control. The exchange is far from playful—this is a strategic tussle for power, played out in public, with every post carrying political weight.

### Book politics

At the party office recently, DyCM DK Shivakumar released the Kannada translation of former PM Indira Gandhi's work, Nudimuttugalu, but the freebie-loving crowd of workers and leaders were promptly told that nothing should be handed out without a price. After a brief debate over rates—₹150 or ₹100—Shivakumar fixed it at ₹100, insisting that all proceeds go to the party. When a senior leader pointed out the book was stamped "Not for Sale," Shivakumar quipped that the label didn't matter; what mattered was money for the party, and anyone who had received it free must cough up ₹100. The office erupted in laughter, blending politics, fundraising, and a dash of theatrics.

### High command decision

Last week saw a steady stream of ministers and party leaders drop by Mallikarjun Kharge's Bengaluru residence to discuss power-sharing, but the veteran Congress leader kept mum. When cornered by reporters, he waved off questions with a wry warning: "I have nothing to say. Please don't keep pestering me—whatever happens will be decided by the high command."

### Cyber reel

Actor Upendra reportedly pitched the idea of a film on cybercrime after witnessing real cops in action, realising that real-life policing isn't all cinematic stick-wielding heroics. While he and his wife, actress Priyanka, had no idea she had fallen victim to a cyber scam, Upendra visited the Commissioner's office to thank the police on the day the accused was arrested. Upendra suggested, in his trademark style, shooting a cybercrime movie "here and there, with cameras set up like this and that." The Commissioner and officers chuckled at the impromptu "director's briefing," as Upendra's flair for drama brought a reel-world twist to real-world policing.

### Following 'Guru'

For decades, Social Welfare Minister HC Mahadevappa has shadowed his political guru, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah—a partnership that began in the mid-1980s and, he says, will end only when they retire together. Recalling Siddaramaiah's nail-biting 257-vote escape in Chamundeshwari and the CM's tired plea to stay away from future elections, Mahadevappa regretted how money now drowns out merit in politics and how genuinely capable, culturally grounded leaders are fast disappearing.

### Time management

At the Vidhana Soudha banquet hall, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah launched a book and quipped about finance expertise: "I've presented 16 budgets as Finance Minister, yet no one has written a book on it." Turning to DK Shivakumar, he noted that compiling such a work requires hours of research, data, and insights—something Shivakumar had been doing for over two and a half years as Water Resources Minister, following a year in the previous coalition government. Attendees whispered that Shivakumar read past midnight, and Siddaramaiah added with a smile that the minister had painstakingly documented not just Karnataka's water projects, but inter-state and international disputes, agreements, and court rulings. "I haven't finished reading it yet, but everyone should," he said, urging the audience to dive in and share their thoughts.

### First work

DK Shivakumar has been nudging the high command, saying he's done his bit and now it's time to settle his dues—and taking this as a cue, former minister KN Rajanna quipped from Chikkanayakanahalli: "First settle Dr Parameshwar's dues, then talk about DK as CM." He recalled Parameshwar's 2013 stint leading the party to power and added that any leadership decisions must respect past contributions. On DK's future role, Rajanna suggested, "Let the CLP decide—if needed, Parameshwar can step in. Once elections are called, DK can lead us to victory and enjoy a full five-year term as CM." — Sridhar Vivan

BM SIMPLY PUT

## A look at new Labour Codes: What changed and who benefits?

# Code decoded

India has replaced decades-old labour laws with four modern labour codes aimed at simplifying compliance and expanding worker protection.

These codes are designed to suit a fast-growing digital and gig-driven economy. Here is a clear breakdown of what the new labour codes mean and how they impact different categories of workers.

### What major reform has the Central Government introduced?

The Central Government has replaced 29 old labour laws, some dating back to the 1930s–1950s, with four consolidated labour codes. These codes aim to remove past confusion, simplify labour regulation, and extend social as well as economic security to workers in a fast-changing digital and gig-economy landscape.

### Which new labour codes have come into effect?

The government has notified reforms related to the Code on Wages (2019), Industrial Relations Code (2020), Social Security Code (2020), and Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code (2020). A preliminary notification was issued on November 21, and a detailed notification is expected within 45 days, indicating the implementation framework.

### What is the focus of these new labour codes?

The codes primarily aim to support digital and gig-based work models while ensuring minimum wages, social security, and improved working conditions. They intend to bring uniform protections across the workforce, including gig workers, contract workers, women employees, MSME workers, and white-collar professionals. Despite criticism and protests from labour unions, analyses suggest that the codes broaden labour welfare coverage.

### How do the new labour codes benefit contract-based employees?

Contract workers gain parity with permanent workers in areas such as leave, insurance, and gratuity. They become eligible for gratuity even after one year of service instead of the earlier five-year requirement. Employers must provide equal pay for fixed-term and permanent workers, and mandatory free health check-ups apply to workers over age forty, thereby improving their long-term well-being.

### How do gig workers benefit under the new codes?

Gig workers receive a Universal Account Number (UAN) to ensure flexible work portability. For the first time, gig and platform workers are brought under social security schemes. Mandatory minimum wages apply, and companies must register these workers, thereby providing consistent protection regardless of the platform they work for.

### What advantages do MSME workers get?

MSME workers receive graded social security based on the number of workers employed. They are guaranteed minimum wages and essential workplace facilities such as drinking water and toilets. Any overtime work must be compensated at double the wage rate and accompanied by paid leave where applicable, ensuring fair treatment in smaller enterprises.

### What protections are offered to beedi and cigarette industry workers?

These workers are restricted to working a maximum of 8–12 hours per day with a weekly cap of 48 hours. Overtime must be compensated at double the regular wage, and workers earning at least 30 days' wages per year are entitled to bonuses and timely salary payments, improving conditions in an industry known for informal practices.

### How do the codes support white-collar employees?

Employers must pay salaries by the 7th of every month, and women employees are allowed night shifts subject to safety measures. Issuing appointment letters becomes mandatory, and the basic pay must constitute at least 50% of total CTC. These measures strengthen transparency, job security, and consistency in remuneration structures.

### Why does take-home salary reduce under the new labour codes?

The codes mandate compulsory PF and gratuity contributions, which reduce take-home salary but increase long-term savings. For example, with a monthly salary of ₹30,000 where 50% must be basic pay, a worker contributes ₹1,800 to PF plus ₹200 towards professional tax, reducing take-home pay to ₹28,000. However, the employer also contributes ₹1,800 to PF and ₹722 to gratuity, and PF earns 8.25% annual interest, helping build a stronger retirement fund.

### What additional benefits do the codes provide across sectors?

Contract workers across all sectors receive PF, ESIC, insurance, maternity benefits, and pension. A single digital platform simplifies company registration and licensing by eliminating more than twelve procedures. A national floor wage ensures minimum pay across states, gig and platform companies must contribute 1–2% of annual turnover towards worker welfare, and even journalists and dubbing artists gain access to social security coverage.

### What are the key criticisms or negative aspects of the new labour codes?

Concerns include the increase in daily working hours to 12, the risk of contract workers finding it harder to secure permanent positions, the requirement that 75% of employees must support any strike, and the provision allowing companies to lay off up to 300 workers without prior government approval. Critics argue these measures may weaken labour rights and collective bargaining.

## SOCIALTATTLE

### THAT WENT VIRAL

A post shared on X (formerly Twitter) by user @sriharikaranth has gone viral, showing panoramic views of Bengaluru wrapped in dense clouds, almost giving the city a hill-station-like vibe.

### WHAT'S TWEETING

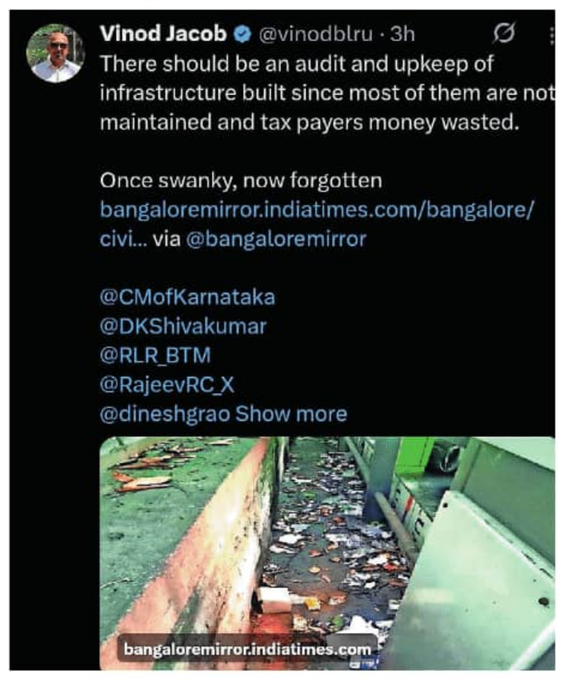
A post shared by X user @KiranKS stated that Bengaluru is "easily the best air-quality metro city in India." A chart of AQI levels from 2015 to 2025 was posted,

Kiran Kumar S
@KiranKS
Follow
Bengaluru is easily the best air quality metro city in India. Here is a chart of AQI between 2015 and 2025. No other city has such consistent below-100 AQI throughout the year.
Chennai is improving well.
Mumbai is getting better.
The rest are way too polluted.
#IE
10:19 am · 30 Nov 25 · 5,500 Views

highlighting that the city has consistently recorded below-100 AQI through the year. It was also mentioned that Chennai's air quality has been improving, Mumbai is getting better, while other major metros remain significantly more polluted.

### BANGALORE MIRROR TAGGED

A Bangalore Mirror story titled "Once Swanky, Now Forgotten" was reshared by X user @vinodblru, and it was stated in


Vinod Jacob @vinodblru · 3h
There should be an audit and upkeep of infrastructure built since most of them are not maintained and tax payers money wasted.
Once swanky, now forgotten
bangaloremirror.indiatimes.com/bangalore/civi... via @bangaloremirror
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the post that an audit and proper upkeep of public infrastructure is needed, as most facilities are not maintained and taxpayers' money is being wasted.

# Land acquisition process holds up flyover project

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

CBCI Society for Medical Education and St. John's Medical College (a unit of CBCI Society for Medical Education) stating that the respondent - BBMP - is trying to use the property by encroaching upon the same, without acquiring it and without following the due process of law. The petitioners appealed the High Court to restrain the respondents, their officers, agents, or contractors from dispossessing the petitioners, demolishing any structures, removing trees and/or in any manner interfering with their peaceful possession and enjoyment of properties situated at Jakkasandra except in accordance with Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.

"The learned counsel for the respondent-BBMP, upon instructions, submits that the title deeds of the property will be verified. If it is found that the property is government land, the same will be utilised without giving any compensation to the petitioners. If it is found to be the land belonging to the petitioners, then in that event the same will be utilised only after following the due process of law and acquiring it in the manner known to law and not otherwise. His submission is placed on record. The respondents are directed to utilise the property only after following the due process of law and not otherwise," the High Court order read.

While appreciating the authorities and the contractor for the progress of the construction work, Koramangala Fourth Block Residents Welfare Association General Secretary Raghu R said the authorities (land acquisition) have done nothing even two months after the High Court's directive. "The Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition) has said that the file pertaining to land acquisition was sent to Bengaluru South City Corporation. It is not clear when the authorities concerned complete the formalities to acquire the land for ramp construction. If the authorities delay the land acquisition, the flyover may miss one more deadline," he said.

Expressing concern over the delay in acquiring the land, Nitin Seshadri, president of Koramangala 3rd Block Residents' Welfare Association, said the construction work is in progress. "If the authorities complete the process of land acquisition, the flyover may be opened for the public as per the deadline. The authorities must acquire the required land without any delay," he said.

The Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) said that the file has been sent to Bengaluru South City Corporation. "The process of land acquisition is on and it will be completed soon," the Deputy Commissioner said.

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## real estate

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## tender & notices

### COURT NOTICE

**IN THE COURT OF XXVIII ASSISTANT CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT CHENNAI (ALLILULAM COMPLEX)**

**EP NO: 1916 OF 2025**
**O.S.No.483 of 2023**
**Mr.Vimalchand S/o. Mr.Gulabchand** - Decree Holder /Plaintiff
-Vs-
**1) Mrs. B.S.Swetha W/o Nagaraj**
**2) Mr.V.Nagaraj S/o Mr.Vishnusagar**
**Judgement debtor /Defendants**

**1) Mrs.B.S. Swetha W/o Nagaraj JD1 C/o M/s. Giri Nuts and Spieces** No.31. Audiappa Naicken Street,Chennai-600079 and Residing at No.1/12, 3rd Cross Street Mount Joy Extension Near Petrol Bunk Goviopuram Extn., Bangalore South Bangalore-560019

**2) Mr.V.Nagaraj S/o Mr.Vishnusagar ...JD2 No.31. Audiappa Naicken Street, Chennai-600079**

**Take** notice that the on above execution petition filed by the decreeholder / plaintiff against you, for executing the possession decree Honorable XXVII ASSISTANT CITY CIVIL JUDGE was pleased to order notice to your returnable by 18/12/2025.

**You** are hereby called upon to appear before abovesaid court on the above said date at 10:30 am either in person or through a counsel duly instructed, failing which the matter would be heard in your absence and decided exparte

**M/S R.Raveendran**
**B.Manivannan**
Counsel for Decree Holder/ Plaintiff. No.9/5, Sunkurama Chetty Street, Chennai-600001

## personal

### CHANGE OF NAME

I kirankumar shankrappa kurabar R/o Nagarahalli, kalwad, Dharwad-08, Have changed my name to Kirankumar kurabar for all purpose.

I, Salma W/o Zameer Ahamed R/o No 28, Katanpete Main Road, Peer Boundry Chickpet Bengaluru – 560053 Have Changed My Name To Salma Banu For All Purposes.

I, Noorul Haque Ansari R/o Flat No 205 Sims a H Galaxy 3rd Main 3rd Block Hbr Layout Bengaluru 560043 Have Changed My Name to Noor Haque Ansari for All Purposes.

I Karra Amulya Sunil D/O, Karra Sunil Kumar R/o #289/290,sunrise Apts., Bel Layout, 6th Block, Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru-97 have changed my name to Amulya Sunil Kumar

I, Faisal Ahmed Mushtaq Ahmed R/o o 17/21 Spencer Road Cross Frazer Town Bengaluru 560005 Have changed my name to Faisal Ahmed for all Purposes

I, VIJAYA KUMARA R residing at Flat No. 21033, Prestige Jindal City, Tumkur Road, Chikkabidarakallu, Nagasandra Post, Bangalore – 560073. I have changed my name to VIJAY KUMAR R. Vide affidavit dated 29/11/2025 sworn before notary. V ANJANAPPA Bangalore

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DEC: 7, 8*, 14, 21, 22*, 28, 29* JAN: 1, 5*, 11, 12* 18, 19*, 25, 26*
SOUTH INDIA 7/10* DAYS EX: MANGALORE DEC: 15, 22, 22* 29 JAN: 19, 26
SOUTH INDIA 9/11* DAYS EX: HUBBALLI DEC: 12, 12* JAN: 16*, 20, 27* 30

# e-bike riders slip in through loophole

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mico Layout and HSR Layout consistently report high numbers of offences, including wrong-side riding, signal jumping and helmet violations.

### Biggest offences

A senior police official said that most violations involve no-parking stops, riding against one-way traffic, obstructing pedestrian crossings and speeding under delivery pressure. Police also note a loophole: e-bikes face zero penalties because they fall outside the Motor Vehicles Act, limiting enforcement.

Officers remark that delivering food in 10 minutes is not an emergency, yet riders insist they are penalised even for a one-minute delay. Companies track punctuality, impose fines, and require up to 18 deliveries a day for pay incentives fuelling risky riding behaviour. "Food-delivery riders have become our top traffic violators because they operate under relentless pressure to meet strict delivery deadlines," a senior traffic officer said. "With multiple quick-service apps now promising deliveries in under 10 minutes, riders feel compelled to cut corners—riding against traffic, skipping signals, or stopping in no-parking zones simply to avoid penalties from their companies." The officer added that police have previously held meetings with major app aggregators to address these issues, "but despite repeated discussions, the pressure-based incentive system has not changed, and the violations continue to rise".

### Speed control for food delivery bikes

Meanwhile, residents of VV Nagar Phase 1 in Vasanthapura have called for strict speed control on food delivery bikes operating from the Big Basket warehouse, citing safety concerns for children, women, and senior citizens as several near-miss incidents have occurred. The VV Nagar Phase 1 Welfare and Cultural Association, led by president TV Gopinath and general secretary Subrahmanya Shagritta, has urged delivery operators to follow safe speed limits and assured residents that immediate measures will be taken to prevent accidents and ensure safer streets.

# DKS rules out differences of opinion with Siddaramaiah

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Sunday once again dismissed reports of internal differences with CM Siddaramaiah, asserting that he never took any MLAs to Delhi amid speculation over leadership changes that had erupted earlier.

However, on Saturday, the two leaders had a breakfast meeting after which they put up a united front, denying any difference between them.

"We never had differences of opinion. I never took a single MLA whenever I went to Delhi. I could have taken at least 10 to 12 MLAs. That does not serve any purpose," Shivakumar told reporters here.

He said that he being the Karnataka Pradesh Congress president is like a "father figure" to all the party members.

"I have to take everyone along. All 140 MLAs are dear to me. I never differentiate with anyone. I have no differences of opinion with anyone," the Deputy CM said.

Recalling his efforts during H D Kumaraswamy's tenure as chief minister for a year from May 2018, he said, "I tried my best to save the coalition government of Congress and JD(S). This is something which I and God know."

He added that Kumaraswamy and his father former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda also know it.

Responding to Kumaraswamy's charge that Shivakumar had sought the support of pontiffs in the midst of power tussle, he said, "I never asked for it. I love all the castes. Many seers had spoken in my favour. Did I ask them to speak on my behalf? No. It is their love and trust in me. Should I call that wrong?"

"Let him (Kumaraswamy) say whatever he wants, but I will not get hurt. I never backstab. I fight from the front," Shivakumar said.

On the BJP's criticism over the leadership row, he remarked, "The BJP can say anything for survival. Should we take them seriously?" —PTI

**HEALTH TIP:** Cardamom added to tea to help people suffering from asthma, bronchitis, or lingering chest congestion

Eating asparagus regularly can also protect your skin from sun damage and slow down the appearance of aging signs

# WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?

## Treating love for work like virtue can backfire on employees, teams

It's popular advice for new graduates: "Find a job you love, and you'll never work a day in your life." Love for one's work, Americans are often told, is the surest route to success.

As a management professor, I can attest that there is solid research supporting this advice. In psychology, this idea is described as "intrinsic motivation" – working because you find the work itself satisfying.

People who are intrinsically motivated tend to experience genuine enjoyment and curiosity in what they do, relishing opportunities to learn or master challenges for their own sake. Research has long shown that intrinsic motivation enhances performance, persistence and creativity at work.

Yet my co-authors' recent research suggests that this seemingly innocent idea of loving your work can take on a moral edge. Increasingly, people seem to judge both themselves and others according to whether they are intrinsically motivated. What used to be a personal preference has, for many, become a moral imperative: You should love your work, and it is somehow wrong if you don't.

### Moralising motivation

When a neutral preference becomes charged with moral meaning, social scientists call it "moralisation." For example, someone might initially choose vegetarianism for their own health reasons but come to view it as the right thing to do – and judge others accordingly.

The moralization of intrinsic motivation follows a similar logic. People work for many reasons: passion, duty, family, security or social status. But once intrinsic motivation becomes moralised, loving what you do is seen as not only enjoyable but virtuous. Working for money, prestige or family obligation starts to look less admirable, even suspect.

In a 2023 study, fellow business researchers Julia Lee Cunningham, Jon M. Jachimowicz, and I surveyed over 1,200 employees, asking whether they thought working for personal enjoyment was virtuous.

People who did, we found, tended to believe everyone else should be intrinsically motivated, too. They were also more likely to see other motives, such as working for pay or recognition, as morally inferior. They tended to agree, for example, that "you are morally obligated to love the work itself more than you love the rewards and perks."

These employees had internalised the idea that you work either for love or money – even though most people, in reality, do both.

### Costs for you

At first glance, treating love for work as a virtue seems to offer nothing but benefits. If a job's mission or day-to-day tasks are personally meaningful, you may persist through challenges because quitting could feel like betraying an ideal.

But this virtue can also backfire. When intrinsic motivation becomes a moral duty rather than a joy, you may feel guilty for not constantly loving your work. Emotions that are normal in any job, such as boredom, fatigue or disengagement, can prompt feelings of moral failure and self-blame. Over time, this pressure can contribute to burnout if you stay in unsustainable roles out of guilt.

By idealising your "dream job" when you're applying, you may overlook security, stability, and other important life needs – risking financial strain and underusing your talents. This unrealistic standard could also lead you to leave a job too soon when reality disappoints or initial passion fades.

### Costs for a company

Moralising intrinsic motivation doesn't stop at the self; it also reshapes how we judge others. People who moralise intrinsic motivation often expect it from everyone else.

In a study of nearly 800 employees across 185 teams, we found that employees who experienced intrinsic motivation were more generous toward teammates they perceived as loving their work. However, they were less willing to help out colleagues they considered less passionate.

In other words, moralising intrinsic motivation can make employees "discerning saints" – good to some, but selectively so.

This dynamic can create problems for work teams. Leaders who strongly moralise intrinsic motivation may adopt leadership styles aimed at igniting passion in their teams – emphasising workers' autonomy, for example.

### Embracing many motives

People all around the world experience intrinsic motivation. But if that feeling is universal, its moralisation is not.

My current research with management researcher Laura Sonday suggests that moralising intrinsic motivation is more pronounced in some cultures than in others. Where work is viewed as a means of service, duty or balance, rather than a source of personal fulfilment, loving one's job may be appreciated but not treated as a moral expectation.

I would urge office leaders to recognise the double-edged nature of moralising intrinsic motivation. Expressing genuine love for work can inspire others, but enforcing it as a moral norm can silence or shame those with different values or priorities. Leaders should be careful not to equate enthusiasm with virtue, or assume that passion always signals integrity or competence.

*(By Mijeong Kwon, Rice University, The Conversation)*

## MIRRORLIGHTS

### Hidden blood molecules show surprising anti-ageing power: Study

Scientists have discovered new anti-ageing compounds produced by a little-studied blood bacterium, opening up promising avenues for future skin-rejuvenation therapies.

These indole metabolites were able to reduce inflammation, oxidative stress, and collagen-damaging activity in skin cell cultures.

Three of the compounds, including two never seen before, showed particularly strong effects. The findings hint at a surprising new source for future skin-rejuvenation therapies. People invest significant time and effort into keeping their skin looking young through masks, creams and serums.

Researchers have now identified naturally produced molecules with anti-ageing potential that originate within the body itself.

These three compounds are derived from a blood-dwelling bacterium and have been shown to reduce both cellular damage and inflammation in laboratory-grown human skin cells.

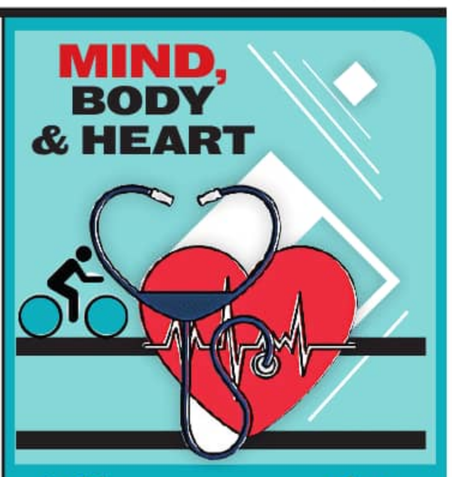
The results, reported in the Journal of Natural Products by the American Chemical Society and the American Society of Pharmacognosy, suggest a promising direction for future skin-ageing treatments.

Scientists still have a limited understanding of how bacterial by-products (called metabolites) circulating in the bloodstream influence human health.

One group of metabolites, known as indole compounds, has attracted particular interest due to their anti-ageing, anti-inflammatory, and antimicrobial effects.

In 2015, researchers discovered a blood bacterium capable of producing these compounds and named it Paracoccus sanguinis.

Chung Sub Kim, Sullim Lee and their team wanted to learn more about P. sanguinis and focused their study on its indole-functionalized metabolites. **—ANI**




## All you need to know about...

*Parenting tips*

**Sleepless nights**
As a new mom, everyone warns about sleepless nights, but what they don't tell you is that this is not a temporary phase. Even when your child starts sleeping through the night, you will not. You'll wake up at every little sound, check if they're breathing, and somehow develop a superpower where you can sense them roll over in their sleep. And when you think you're past the toddler wakeups, then welcome to the world of "Mommy, I had a bad dream" at 2 am.

**No clean house**
You will tidy up, wipe things down, and put everything back in its place—only to have a pile of toys, food crumbs, and mess which will appear exactly five minutes after you invested hours of your time in mastering cleaning skills.

**Endless guilt**
Mom guilt, dad guilt, working parent guilt, stay-at-home parent guilt—it doesn't matter what kind of parent you are; the guilt finds you. You'll feel bad for being away at work, for letting them watch too much TV, for losing your patience, for not making organic, homemade meals every day. The truth? You're doing just fine.

**No hot meals**
Your plate is their plate. It doesn't matter if they have the same meal in front of them, but yours just tastes better. They will steal your food, ask for bites, and when you finally get to take a bite, get ready to encounter "Can I have some water?" or "I need to go potty."

**Nothing belongs to you**
Your bed? Theirs. Your phone? Theirs. Your snacks? Definitely theirs. Your alone time? A thing of the past.

**—Femina**

mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

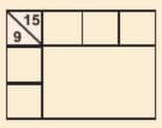

## SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

$\sqrt[a]{(9^2 - 7^2)} = 1024$

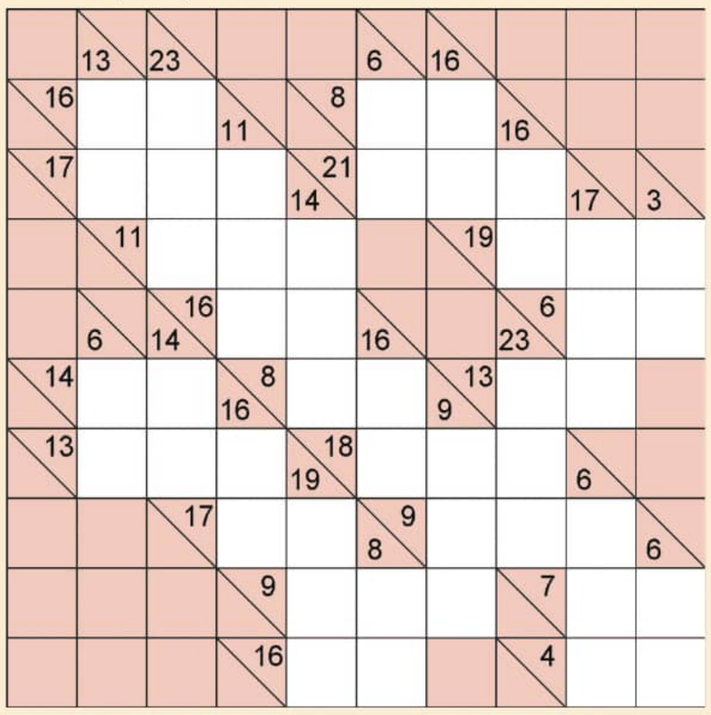
a = ?

## Kakuro

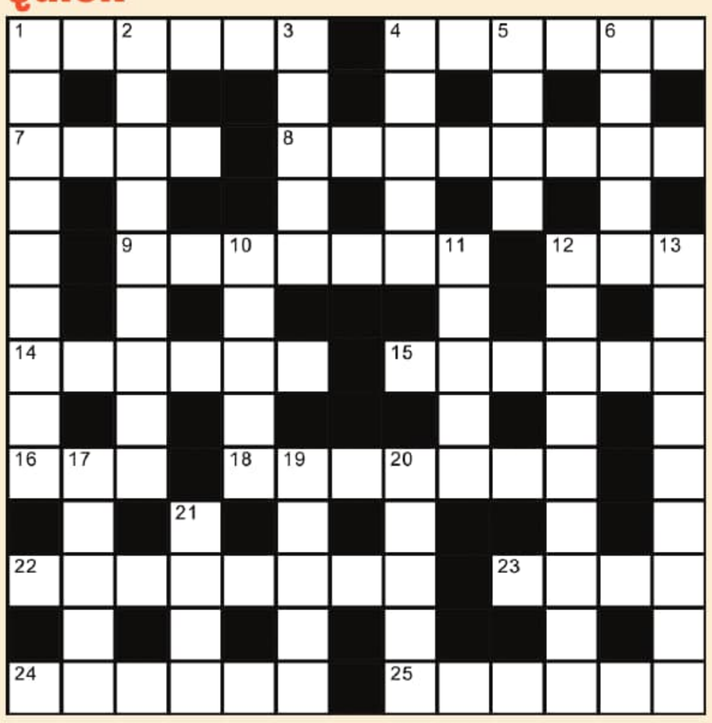
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



## Quick



**ACROSS**

1 Smoked herring (6)
4 Go ashore (6)
7 Remainder (4)
8 Magnetic tape container(8)
9 This victory is too costly (7)
12 Castaway's call (3)
14 Noel Coward's pride? (6)
15 Plant of genus Euphorbia with acrid milky juice (6)
16 Internet addresses (3)
18 The Wasteland, poet (1,1,5)
22 Client (8)
23 Birds lay them (4)
24 The human soul or spirit (6)
25 Sycophant (3-3)

**DOWN**

1 Restaurant at the Taj Gateway hotel known for its seafood (9)
2 Defers (9)
3 Happen again (5)
4 Ex-India left-arm spinner Dilip (5)
5 Lager or ale (4)
6 Proportion (5)
10 Perch (5)
11 Italian isle (5)
12 Cunning plan (9)
13 Author of Treasure Island (9)
17 ___ at : works constantly away at? (5)
19 French river (5)
20 Truck (5)
21 Pertaining to the ear (4)

## Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

**Today's CLUE: I EQUALS Y**

PKCQMQL TCXXJZX YC ICF PJAA TCXXJZ HSCFY ICF.

## Linemaro

You know what you'd look beautiful in? My arms

## Mindchow

Acquire new knowledge whilst thinking over the old, and you may become a teacher of others

## Joke of the day

Sign at a Philippines zoo: We thank him to discover their head before of entering to this enclosure

## Loop

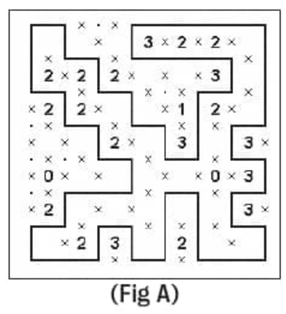
### Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

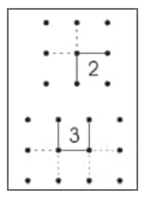
### How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

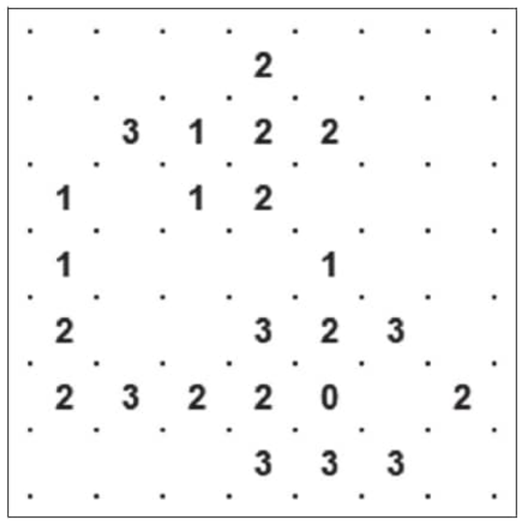
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



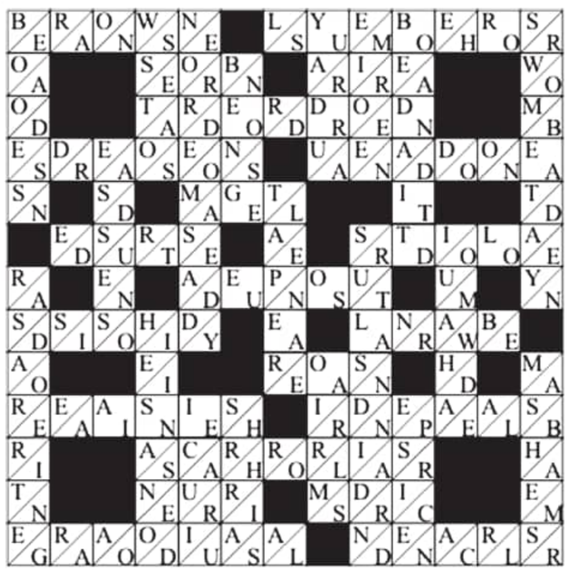
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



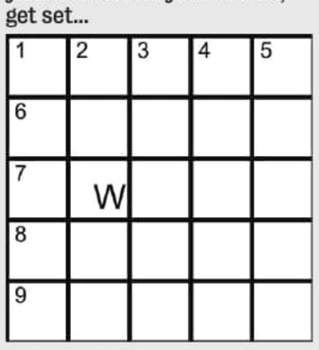
## Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

## Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



**ACROSS**

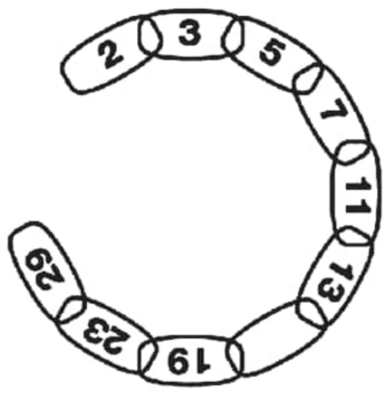
1 Sabah; 6 Op art; 7 Sewer; 8 Truce; 9 Salty

**DOWN**

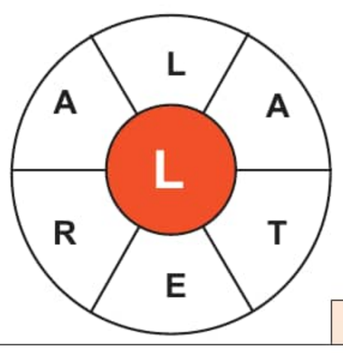
1 Spear; 2 Elbow; 3 A race; 4 Trust; 5 As thy

## Mensapuzzle

Which number fits into the empty link?




## Bull's eye




How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

**10** Average; **11** Good; **13** Outstanding

## SudokuChallenge

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 8 | 3 | 7 | | | | | |
| | | 9 | 6 | 4 | | | 7 | 2 |
| 2 | | | | | | | 8 | |
| | | | 8 | | | 9 | 6 | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | 3 | 6 | | | 2 | | | |
| | 7 | | | | | | | 9 |
| 3 | 5 | | | 7 | 6 | 2 | | |
| | | | | | 4 | 8 | 3 | |

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

## Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

**Easy** = 7

3 5 8 9

**Medium** = 25

5 6 6 8

**Hard** = 18

2 4 5 4

## Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

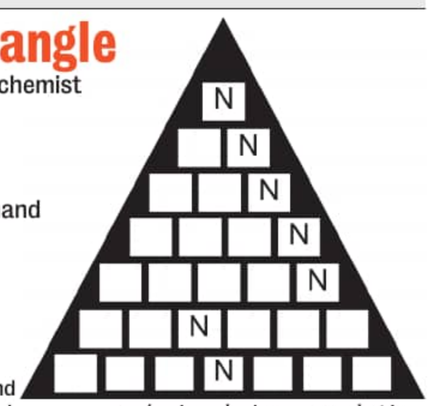
**Differences:** 1. Arm is moved. 2. Leaves are missing. 3. Bumper is missing. 4. Lightning bolt is different. 5. Pants are different. 6. Vest is different.

## Riddler

In this teaser, you have to find the odd ones out in the groups of words. BUT WAIT! There's a catch. Each group of words has TWO words which do not belong. Can you find them both?

## Alpha triangle

1 Nitrogen for the chemist
2 Article
3 Moved rapidly
4 Horse colour
5 Fiery crime
6 Kidnapper's demand
7 Complainers

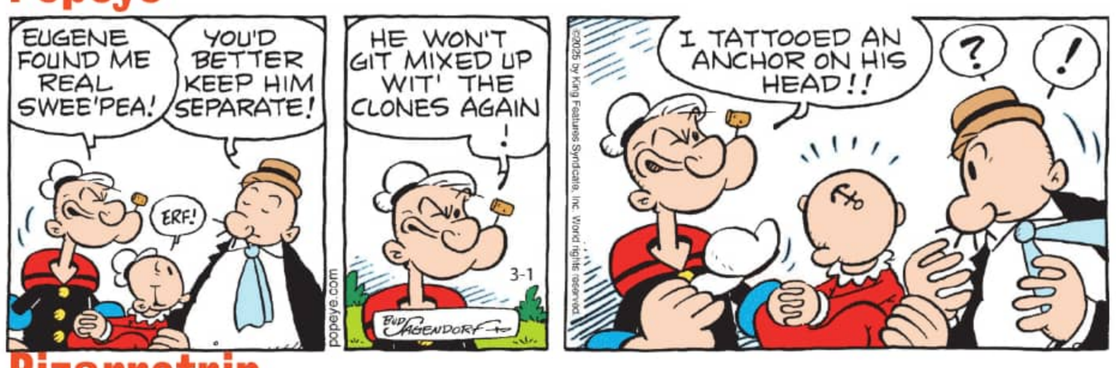



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.


DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

# COMICS

## Popeye




## Bizarrotrip

BIZARRO.COM
defund me
-$2,390 so far
I might have mistyped. Donations are coming OUT of our account.
Wayno & 3 Piraro. 8-21-25
Dist. by King Features
©2025 BIZARRO STUDIOS

## Diamond Lil

HEY, SURLI, HOW DO I TAKE A WOMAN'S BREATH AWAY?
OK, HERE'S WHAT I FOUND...
UNPLUG HER IRON LUNG
©2025 creators.com 8/21
www.creators.com

## Hart of the city

MY FIRST KISS IS SUPPOSED TO BE MAGICAL!! AND HE SNEEZED IN MY MOUTH!!
EW.
FIRST KISS, EH?
YOUR FIRST KISS IS SO IMPORTANT. IF IT'S A BAD FIRST KISS, YOU'LL HAVE BAD LUCK FOR SIX YEARS!
WHAT?!
OR MAYBE IT'S BAD LUCK FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE. I'LL DO SOME RESEARCH AND GET BACK TO YOU.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

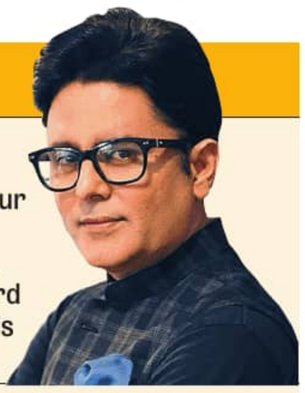
## Crankshaft

DAD GOT A BLUE RIBBON!
CONGRATS! WHAT WAS IT FOR?
'THE GREATEST NUMBER OF HORTICULTURAL TOOLS USED IN A BACKYARD GARDEN'!
© 2025 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
BATIUK & DAVIS

## Mutts

# WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR



## If it's your birthday today

Happy Birthday! As you step into this new solar year, Sagittarius, embrace your natural love for adventure. The cosmos highlights your desire for expansion, making this the perfect time to launch that long-dreamed of project or plan a significant journey. Trust your philosophical insights; they will guide you toward authentic joy and profound wisdom. Don't fear the unknown doors opening this month; they lead to exciting personal growth and unparalleled experiences.

### Aries Mar 21–Apr 20

This first day of December ignites your ambition. Channel that fresh energy into a neglected goal; success is imminent. Plan your final yearly moves with bold confidence now for rewarding results later this month.

### Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Creative expression is your guiding light today. Share your unique vision with enthusiasm and watch opportunities bloom. Let your inner star shine brightly to inspire everyone around you this fresh month.

### Sagittarius Nov 23–Dec 22

Your adventurous spirit demands expansion; explore a new skill or idea today. This intellectual spark will fuel exciting learning throughout December. Embrace the journey with optimism and genuine curiosity.

### Taurus Apr 21–May 20

Ground yourself in comfort today, dear Taurus. Use this calm start to solidify your financial plans for the coming weeks. Nurturing small projects brings significant peace and enduring satisfaction.

### Virgo Aug 24–Sep 23

Detail-oriented planning brings powerful results. Use this morning to organise your to-do list for the remainder of the year. Small, thoughtful actions create a beautifully smooth December experience.

### Capricorn Dec 23–Jan 20

Career matters look promising; initiate that important project today, Capricorn. Your dedication shines through clearly to superiors and peers. A strong, disciplined start guarantees professionaladvancement soon.

### Gemini May 21–Jun 21

Your social calendar shines brightly on this first day. Reach out to a key contact; new collaborative sparks will light up your path. Embrace open communication for exciting momentum this month.

### Libra Sep 24–Oct 22

Harmony reigns as you begin this final month. Seek balance in all interactions, especially concerning partnerships. A thoughtful conversation today sets a beautiful, cooperative tone for all of December's events.

### Aquarius Jan 21–Feb 19

Connect with your community or innovative network today, Aquarius. Shared ideas lead to breakthroughs you can implement this month. Future-focused thinking today unlocks exciting possibilities for next year.

### Cancer Jun 22–July 23

Focus on home and wellness today, Cancer. Tidy your space to clear mental clutter for December's busy pace. Prioritizing self-care now ensures you approach holiday demands feeling refreshed and ready.

### Scorpio Oct 23–Nov 22

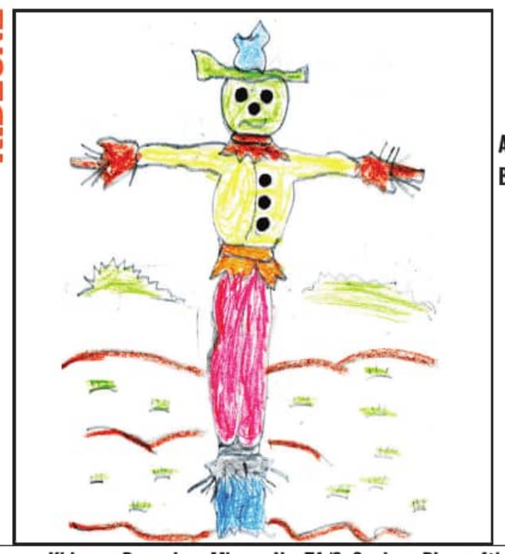
Deep transformation starts with a focused decision today, Scorpio. Release anything that no longer serves your highest good. This purposeful clearing paves the way for wonderful, unexpected rewards this month.

### Pisces Feb 20–Mar 20

Trust your intuition as December dawns, dear Pisces. Spend time visualising your ideal month ahead. Gentle introspection allows you to attract supportive, inspiring energies right where you need them most.

www.sundeepkochar.com

# KIDZONE



Akhilesh, Bengaluru

Namratha, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

# SOLUTIONS

**RIDDLER** Aqua does not belong as it's the only one which is not a tree. Willow does not belong as it's the only one which is not a colour. 2. Sword does not belong as it's the only one which is not a family pet. Hamster does not belong as it's the only one which is not a type of fish. 3. Double does not belong as it's not a person of royalty. Prince does not belong as it's the only one which is not a bed size.

**FAST FIVE**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | A | S | H |
| P | O | R | T | A |
| E | W | E | R | S |
| R | E | C | U | T |
| S | L | A | T | Y |

**SOLVE IN 1M**

$(9^2-7^2)^(1/a) = 1024$
$32 = 1024^a$
$= 32^(1/2)$
$a = 1/2$

**STRIKE OUT**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | R | O | W | N | ■ | L | U | M | B | E | R | S | ■ | ■ |
| O | ■ | E | O | N | ■ | R | I | A | ■ | ■ | ■ | O | ■ | ■ |
| D | ■ | T | R | O | D | D | E | N | ■ | ■ | ■ | M | ■ | ■ |
| E | R | A | S | E | S | ■ | U | N | D | O | N | E | ■ | ■ |
| S | ■ | S | ■ | M | E | T | ■ | I | ■ | ■ | ■ | D | ■ | ■ |
| E | S | T | E | ■ | A | ■ | S | T | O | L | A | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| A | ■ | E | ■ | D | E | P | O | T | ■ | M | ■ | Y | ■ | ■ |
| D | I | S | H | Y | ■ | E | ■ | A | R | A | B | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| O | ■ | I | ■ | R | O | N | ■ | H | ■ | ■ | ■ | A | ■ | ■ |
| R | A | I | S | E | S | ■ | I | D | E | A | L | S | ■ | ■ |
| I | ■ | S | C | H | O | L | A | R | ■ | ■ | ■ | H | ■ | ■ |
| N | ■ | E | R | I | ■ | S | R | I | ■ | ■ | ■ | E | ■ | ■ |
| G | R | A | D | U | A | L | ■ | D | E | A | L | S | ■ | ■ |

**QUICK**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | S | Y | C | H | E | ■ | Y | E | S | M | A | N | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | G | ■ | I | ■ | M | ■ | R | ■ | E | ■ | ■ | O | ■ | ■ |
| C | U | S | T | O | M | E | R | ■ | E | G | G | S | ■ | ■ |
| L | ■ | L | ■ | O | ■ | O | ■ | A | ■ | ■ | ■ | N | ■ | ■ |
| I | P | S | T | S | E | L | I | O | T | ■ | ■ | E | ■ | ■ |
| L | ■ | E | ■ | S | ■ | R | ■ | A | ■ | V | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| L | O | N | D | O | N | ■ | S | P | U | R | G | E | ■ | ■ |
| A | ■ | O | ■ | O | ■ | A | ■ | T | ■ | T | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| V | ■ | P | Y | R | R | H | I | C | ■ | S | O | S | ■ | ■ |
| A | ■ | T | ■ | U | ■ | H | ■ | I | ■ | A | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| R | E | S | T | ■ | C | A | S | S | E | T | T | E | ■ | ■ |
| A | ■ | O | ■ | ■ | E | ■ | O | ■ | E | ■ | A | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| K | I | P | P | E | R | ■ | D | E | B | A | R | K | ■ | ■ |

**MENSA PUZZLE**

17. The chain follows the sequence of prime numbers.

**BULL'S EYE**

alert, altar, alter, earl, late, later, LATERAL, real, tale, tall, taller, teal, tell

**QUOTE UNCODE**

Whoever gossips to you will gossip about you.

**SUDOKU**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 5 |
| 5 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 2 |
| 2 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 6 |
| 4 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 1 |
| 8 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 3 |
| 7 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 8 |
| 1 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 9 |
| 3 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 9 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 7 |

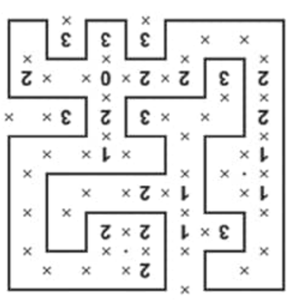
**ALPHA TRIANGLE**

N, An, Ran, Roan, Arson, Ransom, Moaners.

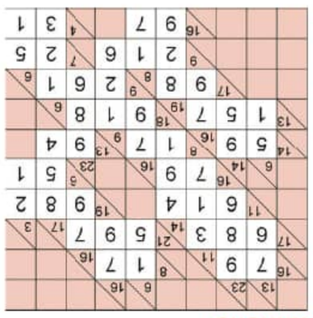
**GO FIGURE**

Easy
8 + 3 − 9 + 5 = 7
Medium
6 + 8 + 6 + 5 = 25
Hard
4 + 5 x 4 \ 2 = 18

**LOOP**



**KAKURO**



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**# Loss of sight**
"I can't see television": Actress Judi Dench details worsening eyesight due to macular degeneration

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

## Star grandson's debut

Veteran actor late Rajesh's grandson Sainand debuts as a hero in Sandalwood with Mujugara. The muhurat event of the movie was held at Ganapathi Temple, Basavanagudi on Thursday. Actor Pramod Shetty sounded the clapboard while producer Shanta Srinivas switched on the camera for the muhurat shot. Tarun N debuts as a director with this movie.

Tarun said that he has been associated with Sandalwood for two

decades. "I worked as an associate for directors Nagabharana, Anantha Raju, Amar and Bharath. Mujugara is my maiden movie. It revolves around a coffee estate. The movie is scheduled to go on floors from December 15 in and around Sakaleshpur, Chikkamagalur, Horanadu, Kalasa, and Madikeri," said the director.

The movie features Sainand, Nimishka, Subash, and others. "Pramod Shetty will play the villain. Sridhar V Sambhram is the music director while Different Danny is the stunt master, " he said.

Shanta Srinivas said that he bankrolled Elli Aadodu Naavu Elli Aadodu, a children's movie. "Mujugara is my second movie as a producer. I agreed to bankroll this movie because of its script," the producer said.

## Folksy tune

Konane, one of the songs of much-awaited film Lo Naveena, was unveiled at MMB Legacy on Friday. Prominent personalities of Sandalwood, including former legislators A Manju, Puttaraju, Amarnath Gowda, and Anand of GT Mall, graced the event.

Naveen Sajju, who began his career as a playback singer with Lucia more than a decade ago, debuts as a hero with Lo Naveena. The song – Konane – was sung by traditional folk singers Chemmamma and Lakshamma of HD Kote, and Naveen Sajju. Dhanurdhari Pavan is handling the megaphone while Keerthi Swamy, a non-resident Indian from Virginia, is the producer for this movie.

Naveen Sajju said that he hails from

Malavalli and used to sing songs in an orchestra.

Appreciating Chammamma and Lakshamma for singing the song Konane, he said that he met them at Herenandi village while searching for a location for this movie's shooting. "They were singing a folk song while working at an agricultural field. After listening to their song, I decided to make them sing a song for this movie," he said.

# NEW CHAPTER

### Sidharth calls his wife a superhero after witnessing the pregnancy journey

Sidharth Malhotra has opened up about how stepping into fatherhood has completely reshaped his life. Addressing a recent event, the Shershaah star confessed that this new chapter has brought him a deeper appreciation for the strength, resilience and emotional power women carry.

Reflecting on this new phase, Sidharth shared that becoming a father has shifted his priorities in ways he never imagined. He said fatherhood has grounded him and added a new dimension to his life—one that constantly reminds him of what truly matters.

At home, Sidharth revealed, there is now a simple "hierarchy of love." His daughter, Saraayah, is the "superstar," while his wife, Kiara Advani, is the "superhero" who keeps everything running smoothly.

Admitting he has taken a backseat in the household, the actor said, "I am no longer the hero of the house, she is the superstar (his daughter Saraayah). My wife is the superhero."

Sidharth also spoke about the immense admiration he has developed for women after witnessing Kiara's pregnancy journey.

Sharing how the experience humbled him, he said, "The process of seeing her through pregnancy was an eye-opening experience for me. Men always talk about courage and strength, but women actually demonstrate it when they become mothers. And now she's being a true superhero by taking care of Saraayah. I am contributing a little bit with changing diapers and clicking pictures. I am improvising in the role as much as I can." —ETimes

## 'Best amma in the world'

Actor Nayanthara recently celebrated her birthday far away from the spotlight, and it seems like the actress got the cutest gift from her loved ones.

On Sunday, Nayanthara took to Instagram to share a series of pictures of herself in a casual, cool setting with her twin sons, Ulag and Uyir. However, the highlight of the post was a picture of a handmade birthday card created by her sons. The card, lovingly crafted by the kids, read "Best amma in the world."

In no time, fans chimed in the comment section to share their reactions. Fans flooded the comments section, calling the actress a "super mom," while others described it as "the most beautiful birthday gift."

On the work front, Nayanthara has a couple of exciting projects lined up.

The actress will next

be seen in a movie titled Hi, where she will team up with Kavin for the first time. — ANI

## MS Umesh: April 24, 1945 - November 30, 2025

## Umesh no more

Veteran actor Mysore Srikantayya Umesh aka MS Umesh breathed his last on Sunday at Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology. He was suffering with cancer. The veteran actor, who acted in around 400 movies, was 80.

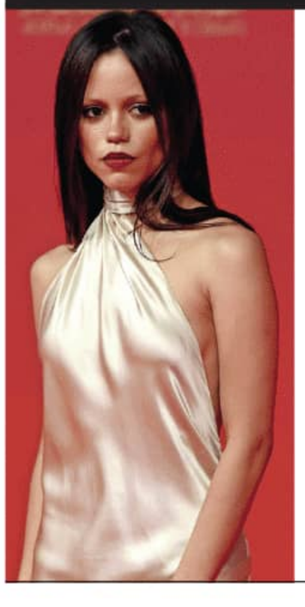
The actor had the privilege of sharing screen with all actors including Dr Rajkumar, Dr Vishnuvardhan, Ambareesh, and Anant Nag. His last Kannada movie was Kamal Sridevi in which he played a security guard.

Umesh began his journey in Sandalwood with Makkala Rajya that was released in 1960. He won Karnataka State Award for Best Supporting Actor for his performance in Katha Sangama.

According to sources, the veteran actor slipped and fell in the bathroom at his home on October 10 and was rushed to the hospital. He was admitted to the hospital for leg and shoulder injuries but scans revealed that the actor was battling with advanced liver cancer.

He was the most revered comedian who had the ability to tickle audiences' funny bone with his dialogue delivery and gestures. He earned fame for his sterling performances in Guru Shishyaru, Golmal Radhakrishna, and Venkata in Sankata.

Many prominent personalities condoled his death. — BMB



## 'I'm not intimidated'

Jenna Ortega, star of Tim Burton's Netflix hit 'Wednesday', has created history at the Marrakech Film Festival this year as its youngest ever jury member, reported Deadline. The 23-year-old actress joins a jury presided over by Cannes Palme d'Or and Oscar-winning Parasite director Bong Joon Ho.

Despite being young and surrounded by the critically acclaimed filmmakers in the jury panel, Jenna Ortega doesn't feel intimidated; instead, she seems to be relishing the experience.

"I'm not intimidated because I think I'm so overwhelmed with gratitude. I think it would be a shame to come into this experience and be weighed down by some external pressure," she said as quoted by Deadline. She continued, "At the end of the day, we're all on the same team. We're here to have a discussion about film, an honest discussion, and I tend to be a pretty honest person; it's very hard for me to put up a front," as quoted by Deadline. The other jury members include Palme d'Or winner Julia Ducournau (Titane), Oscar nominee Celine Song (Past Lives), Berlinale Best Actor winner Payman Maadi (A Separation) as well as Mad Max star Anya Taylor-Joy and respected auteur directors Karim Ainouz and Hakim Belabbe. —ANI